

HON 375: Honors Internship

Fall 2017

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

HON 375 is an academic component connected to a Mahurin Honors College scholar's approved second-semester internship. This course helps honors scholars reflect on the academic, professional, and personal implications of their internship experience and leverage that experience further. Additionally, it engages students in course assignments that sharpen the skills they learn during the internship and project them forward into other academic and professional endeavors. In particular, it focuses on further developing both hard and soft skills endemic to future successes as well as put an emphasis on problem posing and problem solving.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

HON 375. HONORS INTERNSHIP I. (3) Second semester course offering practical experience for honors students in a supervised work situation with a cooperative organization, agency, or entity.

REQUIREMENTS

To be enrolled in HON 375, students must submit an Honors Internship Application and have it approved by the Associate Director no later than the first day of the semester in which HON 375 is taken. This application and guidelines can be found at www.wku.edu/honors/forms/internships.php. Students may **not** enroll in HON 275 and HON 375 simultaneously. HON 275 is taken in conjunction with an Honors College student's *first* internship experience. HON 375 is taken in conjunction with a student's *second* (or second-semester) internship. NOTE: A student may take HON 375 in the semester immediately following an internship but not spaced further apart than that. For example, if a student holds an internship in the summer, he or she may take HON 375 in the subsequent fall semester but not the following spring.

COURSE STRUCTURE

HON 375 is a three-credit course that meets face to face every **three** weeks during the semester (the six class meeting dates are listed below); however, students will work independently and submit assignments through Blackboard every other week during the semester.

COURSE READINGS

HON 375 does require students to purchase any course readings; however, a few course readings will be available to students as PDFs via Blackboard.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the internship and HON 375, students will be able to do the following:

- Draw connections between academic coursework and internship workplace skills to understand how the two inform one another
- Understand how the internship experience influences future career goals and perspectives
- Reflect on leadership capacities and communication in the internship environment
- Improve writing and presentation skills
- Understand and develop various soft-skills related to personal and professional success
- Engage in "design" thinking as a means of problem solving
- Develop an ePortfolio that showcases the internship experience to an intended audience

ASSIGNMENTS

Attendance & Participation	10%
Introductory Essay	05%
Bi-Weekly Assignments	30%
Problem Posing Project	20%
ePortfolio	30%
Presentation	05%

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Attendance & Participation: HON 375 meets only six times during the semester, so attendance and participation is mandatory and expected. Students with one unexcused absence will not be penalized; however, students who miss more than one will be penalized by 10% of their grade for next absence; missing more than two classes will be grounds for being dropped from the course. Participation means taking a meaningful role in classroom activities and conversations.

Introductory Essay: For this assignment, expand on the information provided in your internship application to the Mahurin Honors College. More specifically, provide details about the organization in which you'll intern, your supervisor's position, how he or she will supervise you, your specific duties and roles, why you are suited for these duties and roles, how the internship requires you to use knowledge/skills gained in your academic coursework at WKU, how the internship connects with your future career goals, and how the internship provides leadership opportunities, how you expect to benefit from your work in this internship (i.e., how it will specifically help you develop professionally).

Bi-Weekly Assignments: Every other week this semester, students will complete an assignment (submitted through Blackboard) that discusses and explores course readings and/or experiences derived from the internship. These assignments may involve reflection, analysis, synthesis, or application of ideas. In most but not all cases, these assignments will contribute directly to students' ePortfolios.

Problem Posing Project: Students will develop a project that describes and explores the contours of a problem encountered during their internship that is central to their field of study or professional work environment. The project may also explore solutions to some degree but should focus more on how the problem is handled and approached than solved. It will be included in the ePortfolio.

ePortfolio: By semester's end, students will complete a final ePortfolio that utilizes an online platform and ties all they learned during the internship to their academic majors, career goals, and personal and professional development. This ePortfolio is organized to adhere to intended goals and an intended audience, it showcases evidence of work and development, it executes an integrated aesthetic, and it adheres to standards of usability and accessibility for 21st century users. The ePortfolio is the culmination of the semester's work and will develop throughout the semester.

Presentation: During the last class meeting, students will give a short (5-7 minutes) presentation of their ePortfolios to their classmates and the instructor.

COURSE MEETING DATES in HCIC 2001 @ 5:30-6:50

Wednesday, August 23	Wednesday, October 25
Wednesday, September 13	Wednesday, November 15
Wednesday, October 04	Wednesday, December 06

COURSE CALENDER

The calendar below is tentative and subject to change based on course and student needs; any potential change made, however, will be done so to benefit students.

Week 1: Wednesday, August 23	Week 1 Activity
Meet in HCIC 2001@4:00-5:20	Course Introduction
Week 2: Wednesday, August 30	Week 2 Activity
No Class Meeting	Introductory Essay Due via Blackboard
Week 3: Wednesday, September 6	Week 3 Activity
No Class Meeting	No Course Activities Due
Week 4: Wednesday, September 13	Week 4 Activity
Meet in HCIC 2001@4:00-5:20	Bi-Weekly Assignment #1 Due via Blackboard
Week 5: Wednesday, September 20	Week 5 Activity
No Class Meeting	No Course Activities Due
Week 6: Wednesday, September 27	Week 6 Activity
No Class Meeting	Bi-Weekly Assignment #2 Due via Blackboard
Week 7: Wednesday, October 04	Week 7 Activity
Meet in HCIC 2001@4:00-5:20	No Course Activities Due
Week 8: Wednesday, October 11	Week 8 Activity
No Class Meeting	Bi-Weekly Assignment #3 Due via Blackboard
Week 9: Wednesday, October 18	Week 9 Activity
No Class Meeting	Problem Posing Draft Due via Blackboard
Week 10: Wednesday, October 25	Week 10 Activity
Meet in HCIC 2001@4:00-5:20	Bi-Weekly Assignment #4 Due via Blackboard
Week 11: Wednesday, November 01	Week 11 Activity
No Class Meeting	No Course Activities Due

Week 12: Wednesday, November 08	Week 12 Activity
No Class Meeting	Bi-Weekly Assignment #5 Due via Blackboard
Week 13: Wednesday, November 15	Week 13 Activity
Meet in HCIC 2001@4:00-5:20	No Course Activities Due
Week 14: Wednesday, November 22	Week 14 Activity
No Class Meeting	Bi-Weekly Assignment #6 Due via Blackboard
Week 15: Wednesday, November 29	Week 15 Activity
No Class Meeting	No Course Activities Due
Week 16: Wednesday, December 06	Week 16 Activity
Meet in HCIC 2001@4:00-5:20	ePortfolio Presentations